



State of Early Education in Massachusetts

*Presentation to the Board of Early Education and Care
October 14, 2014*

Thomas L. Weber, Commissioner

Presentation Overview



- **Why Early Education Matters**
- **Early Education Makes Good Sense**
- **A Bold Step in Massachusetts**
- **Access to Quality Programs for Outcomes**
- **Reflecting on a Decade**
- **Challenges to Further Progress**
- **Moving Forward Together and Next Steps**



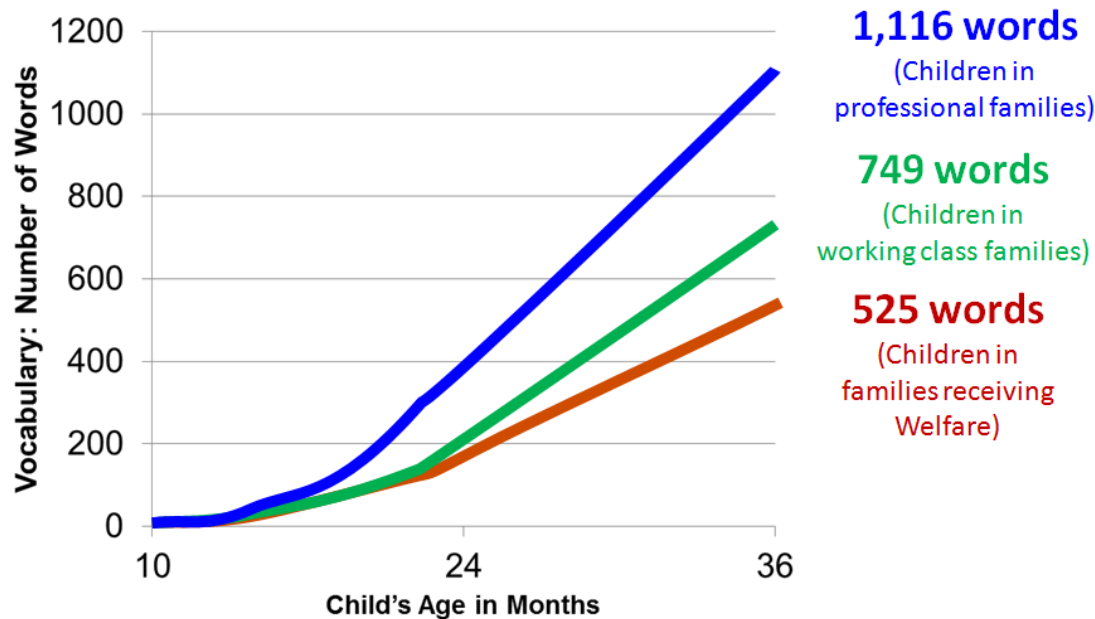


Why Early Education Matters

- **Massachusetts students continue to lead their peers on national and international measures of student achievement.**
- **However, Governor Patrick recognizes that there are still persistent achievement gaps that disproportionately affect students in lower-income communities, English language learners, students with disabilities and students of color.**
- **Closing the achievement gap is one of the central pillars of the Patrick-Murray Administration's strategy to educate all students and create a top-tier, competitive workforce**
- **Third grade literacy proficiency is an important predictor of a child's future academic success.**
- **Providing access to high-quality early education programs is a vital component of addressing the achievement gap.**

The Achievement Gap Begins Early

- **Vocabulary gaps by household occupational status can be seen early:**



Graph adapted from Hart, B. & Risley, T. R. (1995). *Meaningful Difference in the Everyday Experiences of Young Children*. Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co. Researchers grouped children into three socioeconomic status groups based on occupation: "Professional" "Working Class" and "Welfare". Groups strongly correlated with parents education levels and family income.

- **Statewide MCAS results for third-graders (Sept. 2014):**
 - 32% scored **below proficient** in Mathematics
 - 43% scored **below proficient** in **English-Language Arts**

Why Should the Public Care About Early Ed?

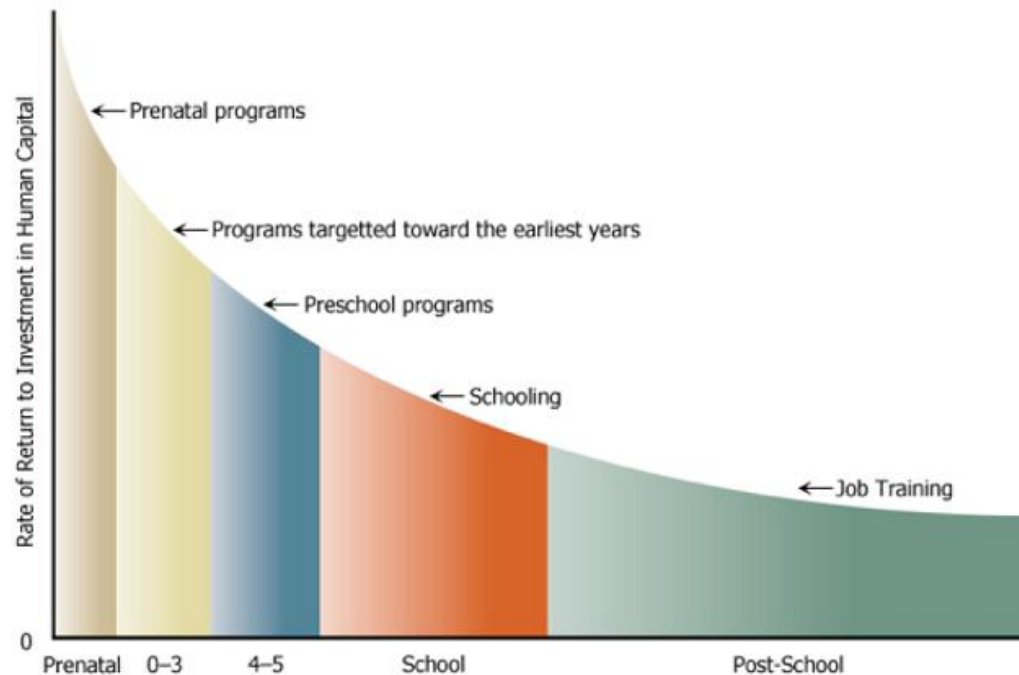


In addition to benefits to children/students (strategy to close achievement gap and promote school readiness), investment in early ed yields:

- Benefits to government and society:
 - Reduced public costs for:
 - Remediation
 - Rehabilitation/incarceration
 - Need for future public assistance
- Benefits to workforce and families:
 - Assists with economic self-sufficiency
 - Obtaining/maintaining employment
 - Increased competencies through two-generational model of parent/child education and development
 - Supports business retention through availability of educated/qualified workforce

Investing Early Makes Economic Sense

- Research suggests greater ROI the earlier the investment
- Investment in early ed yields positive return in savings on education, crime and welfare spending; increased taxes on earnings*
- Investment of \$15K/child returned total public benefit of **\$195K/child***



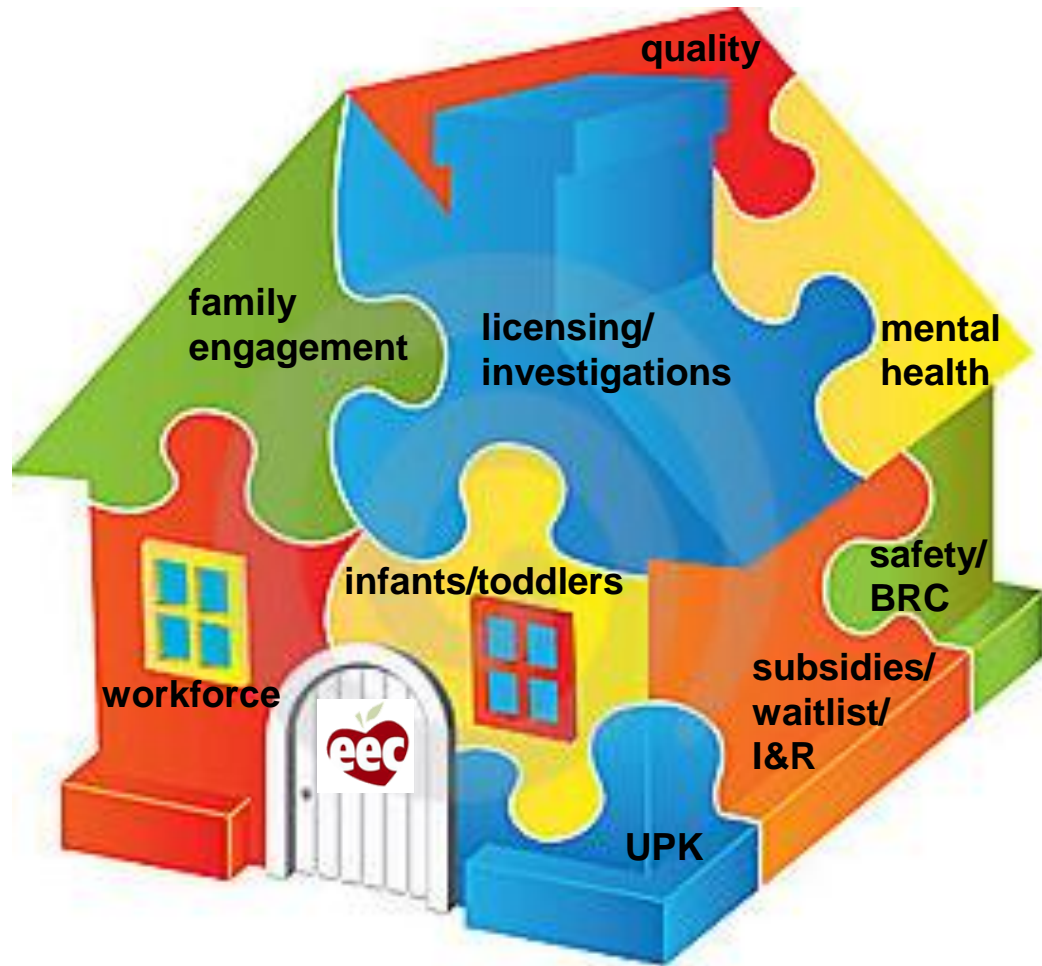
Graph Source: Heckman, James (2008) "Schools, Skills, and Synapses" Available online at:
https://heckman.uchicago.edu/sites/heckman2013.uchicago.edu/files/uploads/Heckman_2008_Schools%20skills%20and%20synapses.pdf

*From "Lifetime Effects: The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study Through Age 40 (pp. 194–215), by Lawrence J. Schweinhart, Jeanne Montie, Zongping Xiang, W. Steven Barnett, Clive R. Belfield, & Milagros Nores, 2005, Ypsilanti, MI: High/Scope Press. © 2005 by High/Scope Educational Research Foundation. Available at: http://www.highscope.org/file/Research/PerryProject/specialsummary_rev2011_02_2.pdf

- **The Commonwealth established the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care in 2005**
- **First agency of its kind in the nation**
- **Department was created to develop a more effective and coordinated early education and care system**
- **Merged the Office of Child Care Services with the Early Learning Services division of the (former) Department of Education (now the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)**



We license programs, provide financial assistance, and much more!



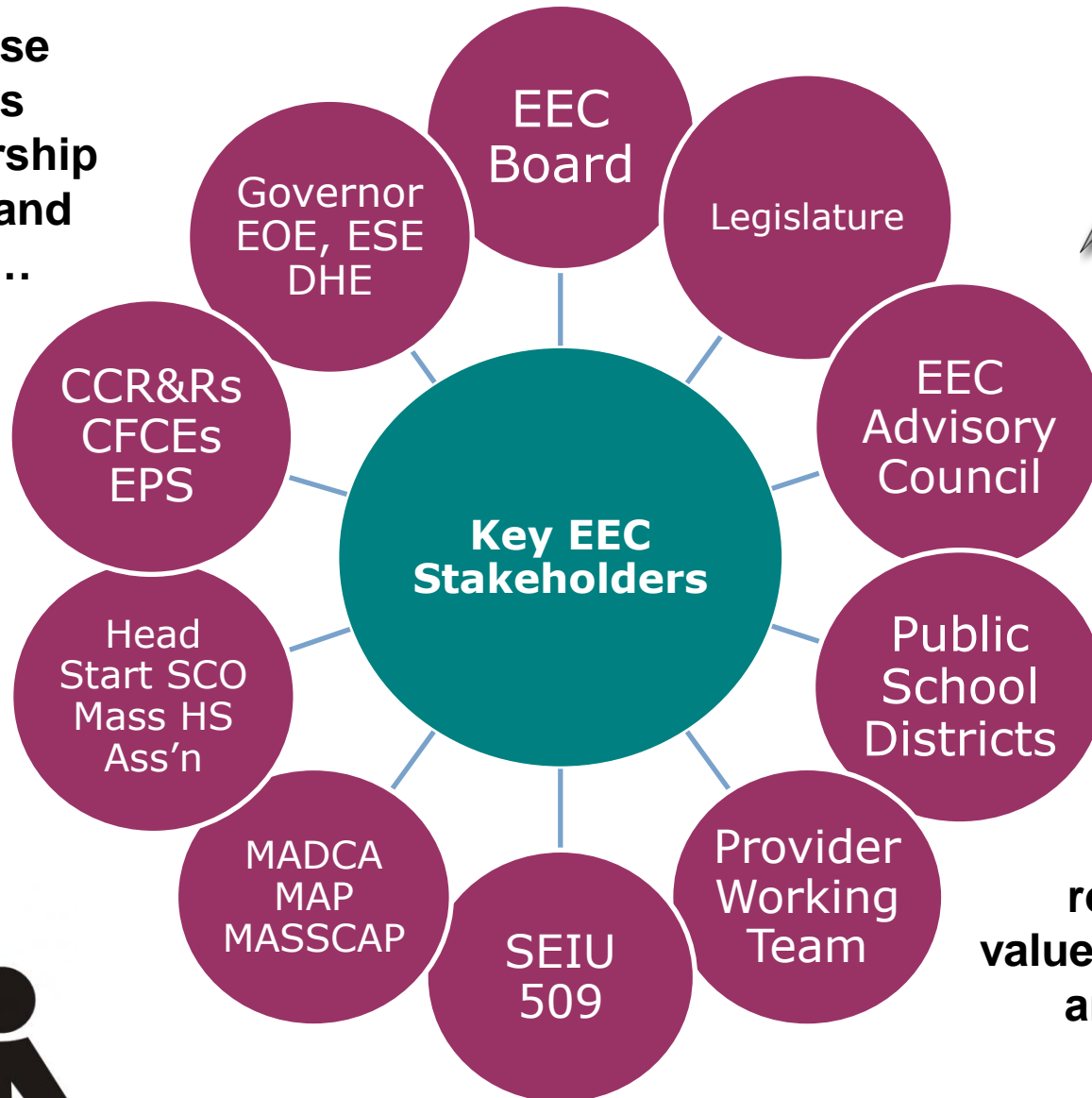
Our state has instituted a solid framework for building a high-quality, accessible system of early education and care for children and families.



We Can't Do It Without Our Partners!



Central to these connections is EEC's partnership with families and communities...



...as EEC recognizes and values that families are their child's first teacher.

Funding for Early Education



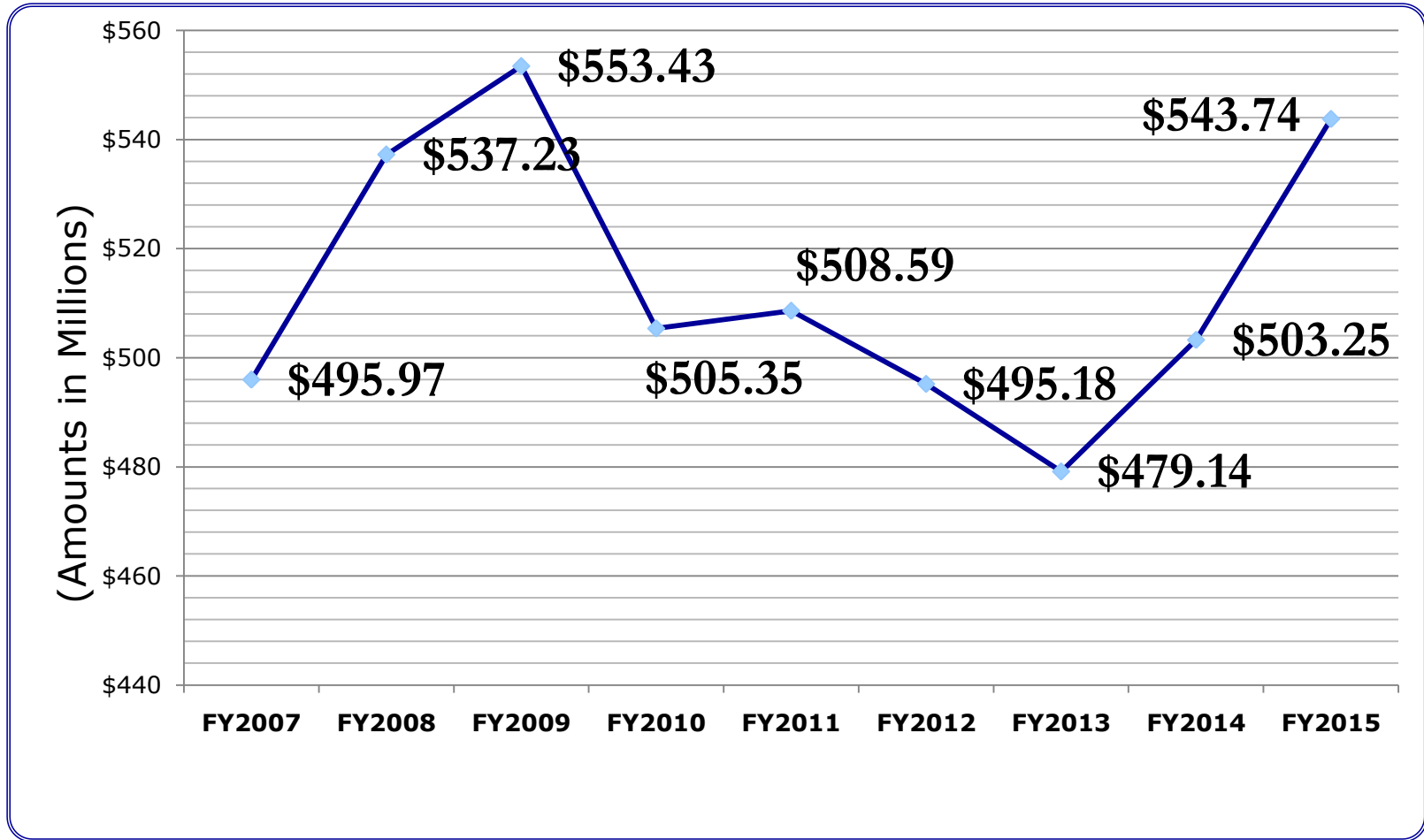
- The majority of EEC's funding is actually federally-sourced through revenue claiming (\$416.7M).
- EEC's total budget for FY15 is \$535M.

Line Item	Descriptor	FY2015 GAA
3000-1000	Administration	\$ 13,365,851
3000-1050	EEC Assessment	\$ 385,000
3000-2000	Access Management	\$ 6,503,861
3000-3050	Supportive Care	\$ 79,730,057
3000-4040	Birth Through Pre-school expansion	\$ 15,000,000
3000-4050	DTA Related Child Care	\$ 133,477,330
3000-4060	*Income Eligible Child Care	\$ 241,894,678
3000-5000	Grants to Head Start	\$ 9,100,000
3000-5025	K1 Classroom Grant Program	\$ 1,000,000
3000-5075	UPK	\$ 7,500,000
3000-6075	Mental Health	\$ 750,000
3000-7040	EEC Contingency Contract Retained Revenue	\$ 200,000
3000-7050	Services for Infants and Parents	\$ 18,464,890
3000-7070	Reach Out and Read	\$ 700,000
1599-0042	CBC Reimbursement Rate Reserve	\$ 6,573,571
		\$ 534,645,238

An estimated \$33M in Ch. 70 state funding supports approximately 20K children in public preschool classrooms

*DOES NOT INCLUDE FY14 PAC

EEC State Budget History



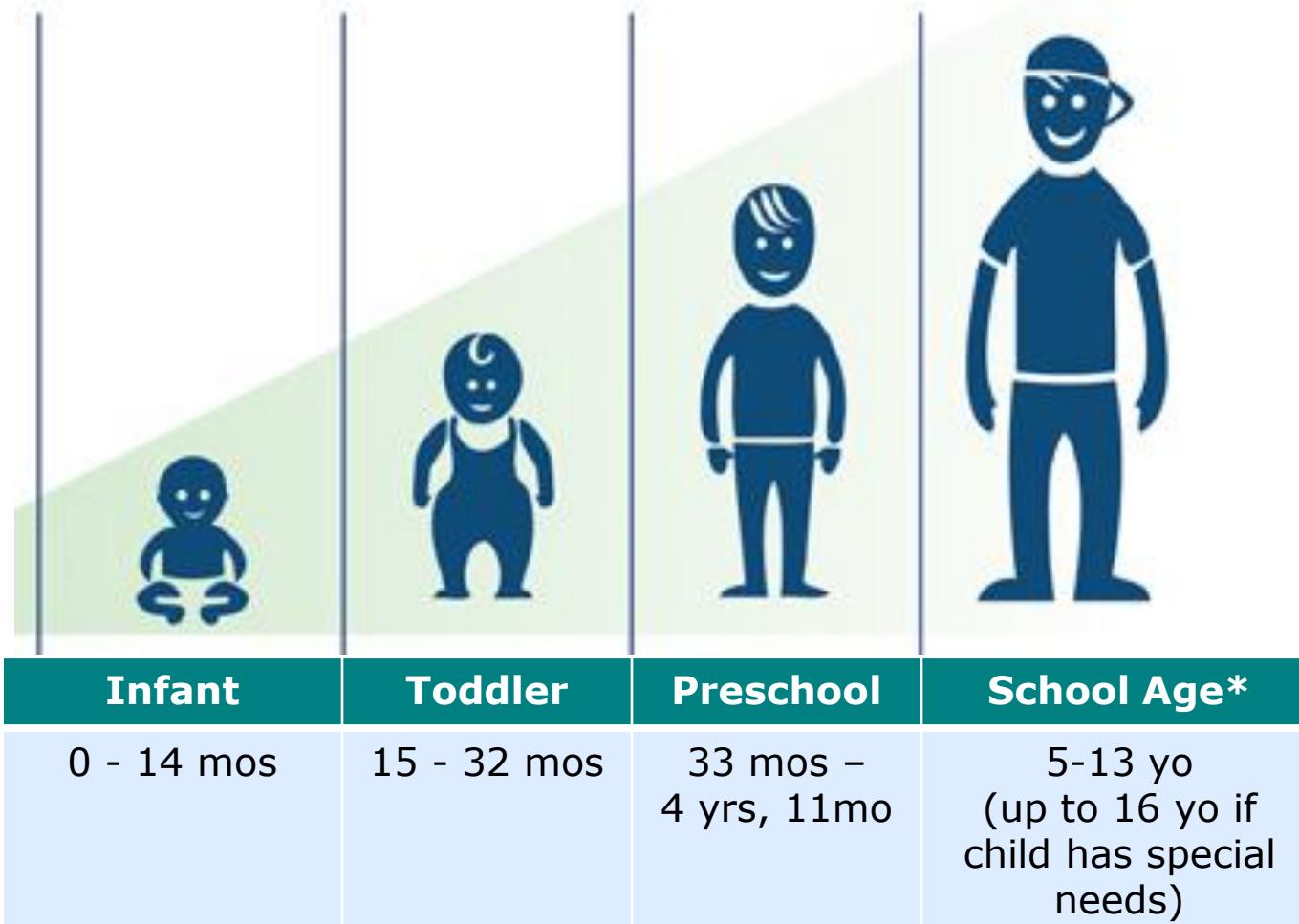
Total amounts are adjusted for prior appropriations continued into the next fiscal year.

We Are Invested!



- We have also sought federal funding to help our programs attain and maintain high quality levels, and to help families in need to access these programs.
 - ❖ \$23.97 million CCDF discretionary obligation through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)
 - ❖ Funds served additional children and families as well as new families, and supported program quality improvements
 - ❖ \$50M Early Learning Challenge grant to strengthen the state's comprehensive early childhood system (2012-15)
 - ❑ Grant is supporting program quality improvements
 - ❑ Goal is to ensure that all children, especially those who are high needs, have a solid foundation for school and life success
 - ❖ Massachusetts is applying for \$60M in funding through the federal Preschool Expansion Grant program Request (\$15M per year x 4 years)
 - ❑ Increase the quality of preschool programs and related services, and their effectiveness in terms of child outcomes
 - ❑ Increase number of 4 year-olds enrolled in high quality preschool

Formal Programs: Who EEC Serves



****School Age children may be served in a before or after school program, or a summer program, or both***

Family Entry Points to Subsidized System



Department of Children and Families (DCF) Child Care

- Families are referred based on open protective service cases
- Type: *Contracted slots*
- Served: *7,000 in Aug*
- *Placement List: 800*



Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) Child Care

- Families are referred based on participation in employment services program
- Type: *Vouchers*
- Served: *14,700 in Aug*
- *Immediate Access*



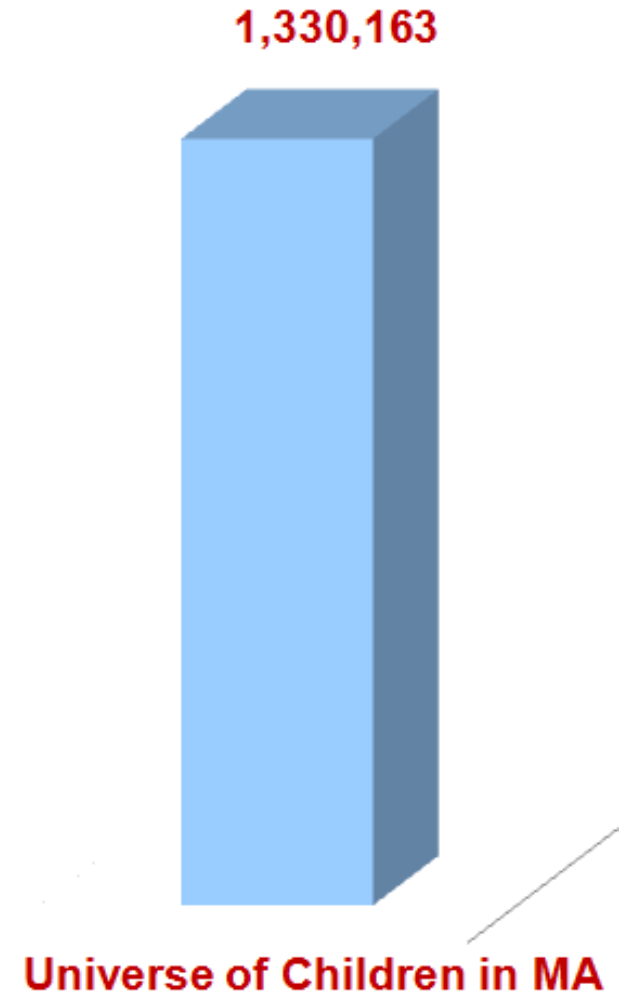
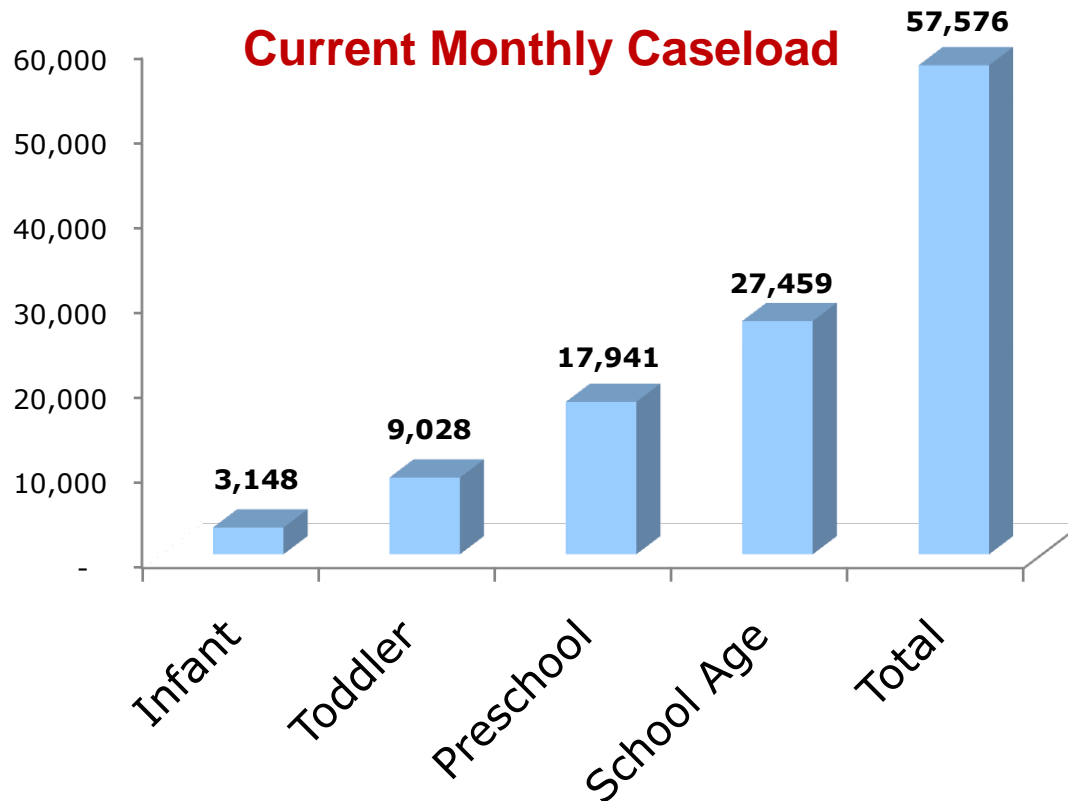
Income-Eligible Child Care

- Financial assistance for low-income families with a service need, on a first come/first served basis.
- Type: *Vouchers & Contracted slots*
- Served: *34,000 in Aug*
- *Waiting List (28,000 all ages)*

Reach of Current Subsidy System



Children Enrolled in Early Education Program through EEC subsidy:





How Far We Have Reached Over Time

- **Transitional Child Care** (subsidies for DTA involved families) *held steady* from 15,847 in FY10 to 15,882 in FY14 (average number of children served monthly.)
- **Supportive Child Care** (subsidies for DCF involved families) *increased slightly* from 6,158 in FY10 to 6,180 in FY14 (average number of children served monthly.)
- **Income Eligible Child Care** (subsidies for low-income families) *increased* from 29,118 in FY10 to 30,629 in FY14 (average number of children served monthly.)
- In addition, EEC served 3,083 *new children* in FY14 through \$15M **waitlist remediation** funding. EEC expects to serve *an additional* 2,500 with this same amount in FY15.

Other Children Served Through Publicly Funded Early Education



We can account for at least another 70,000 children birth to grade 12 who are supported through public (state and federal dollars).

- **Public School District PreK (2.9 – 5 years old): 28,189^{*(1)}**
- **Early Head Start, Head Start (0-5 years old): 14,000^{**}**
- **Afterschool/Out of School Time Quality (K- Gr.12): 11,300^{***}**
(*State grant through ESE, funds may support partnerships with EEC-licensed programs*)
- **21st Century Community Learning Centers (K- Gr.12): 17,000^{****}**
(*State grant through ESE, funds may support partnerships with EEC-licensed programs*)

(1) Funding sources include Ch.70 state and local aid, EEC's Inclusive Preschool Grant (\$9M), and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grant (\$7M)

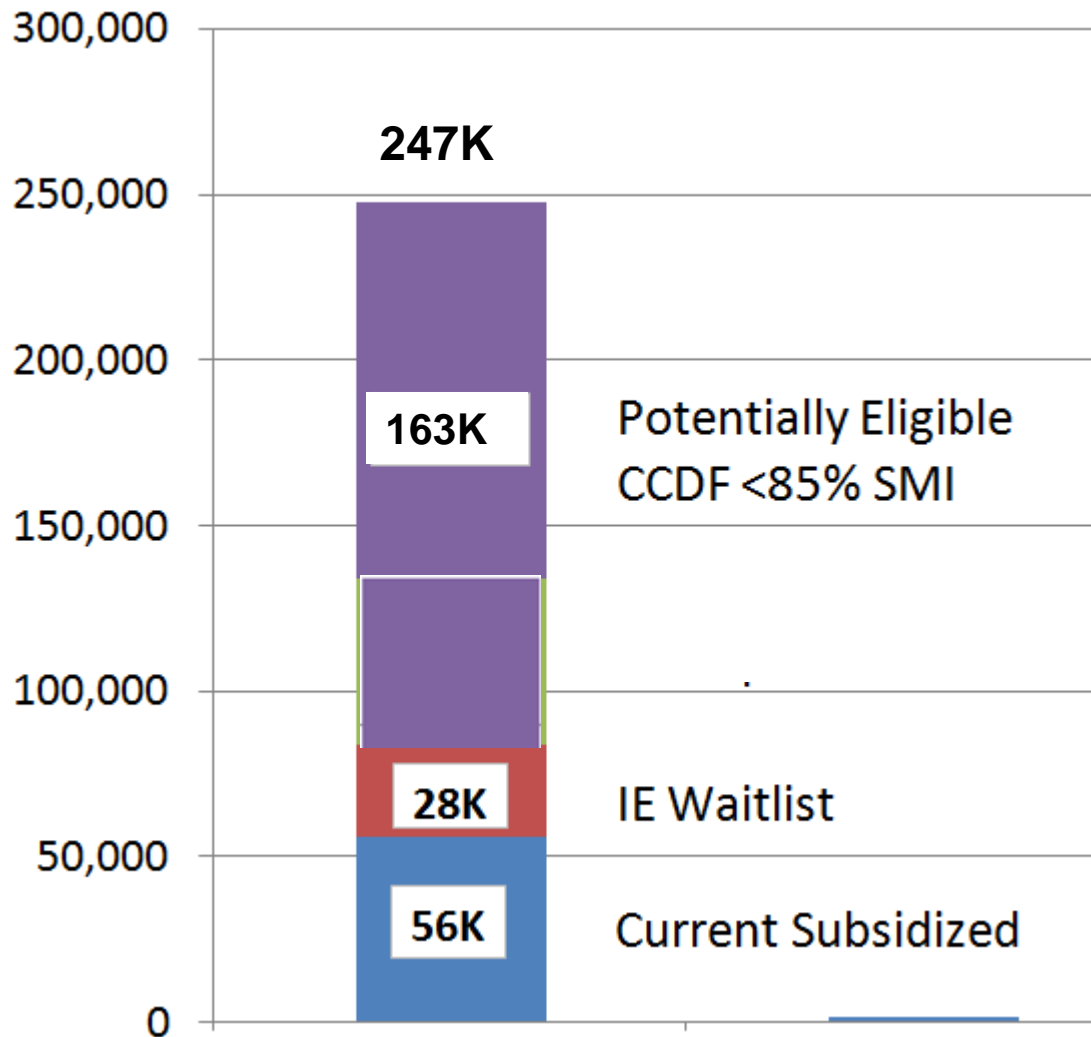
**2013-14 Enrollment By Grade Report (District), Department of Elementary and Secondary Education*

***Office of Head Start Program Information Report, and Massachusetts Head Start State Supplemental Funding Grant Report*

****Report to the Legislature on After-School and Out-of-School Time Quality Enhancement Grants: 2013*

*****21st Century Community Learning Centers Program Fiscal Year 2013 Year End Report*

Access Gap



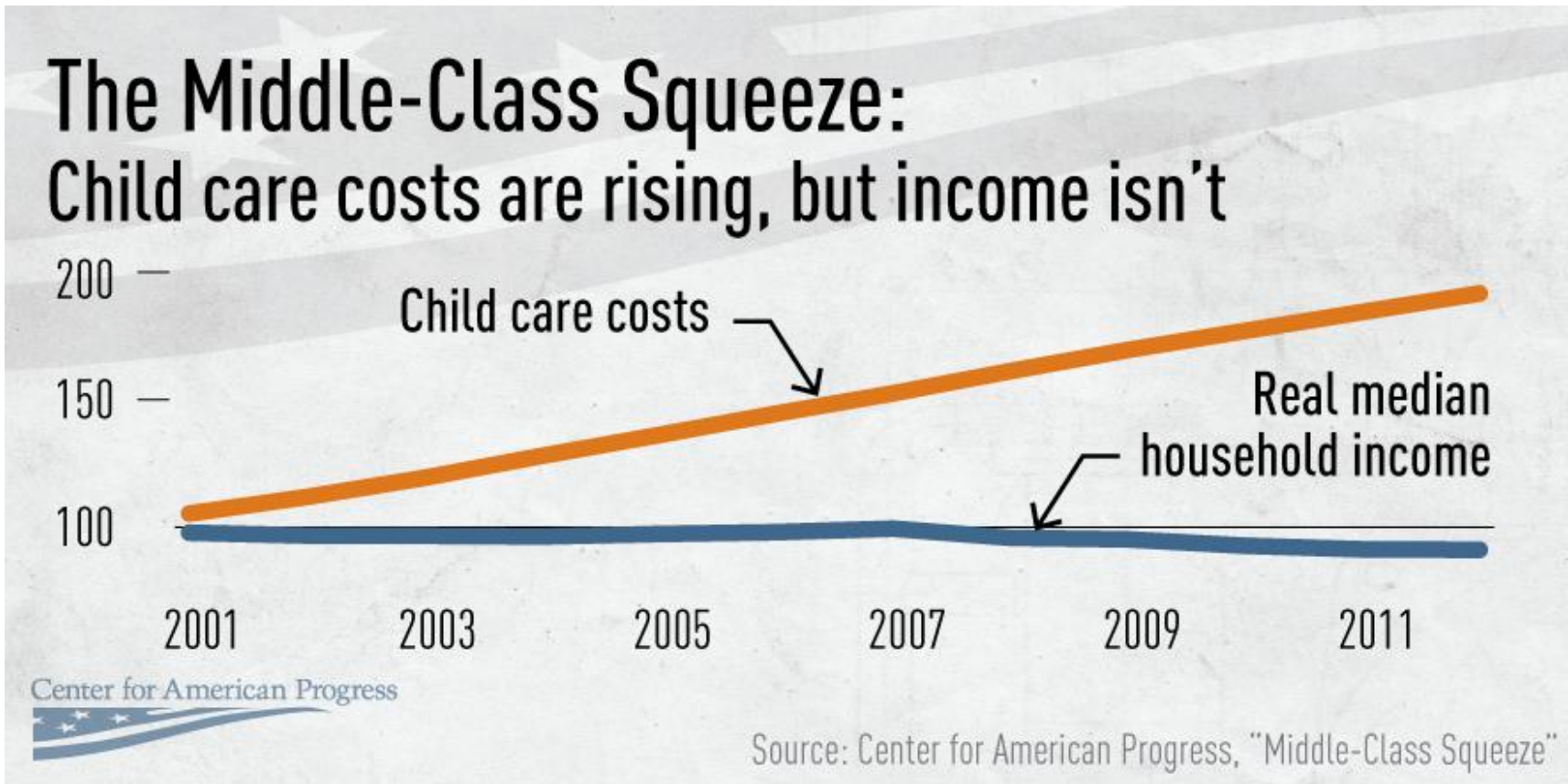
For Income Eligible Child Care:

- There are two levels of income eligibility:
 - ✓ Household income up to 50% of the State Median Income (SMI) at initial assessment; and
 - ✓ Household income up to 85% of the SMI at each subsequent reassessment.
- Families with special needs are allowed to enter at up to 85% of the SMI and remain in care up to 100% of the SMI.

Affordability of Child Care



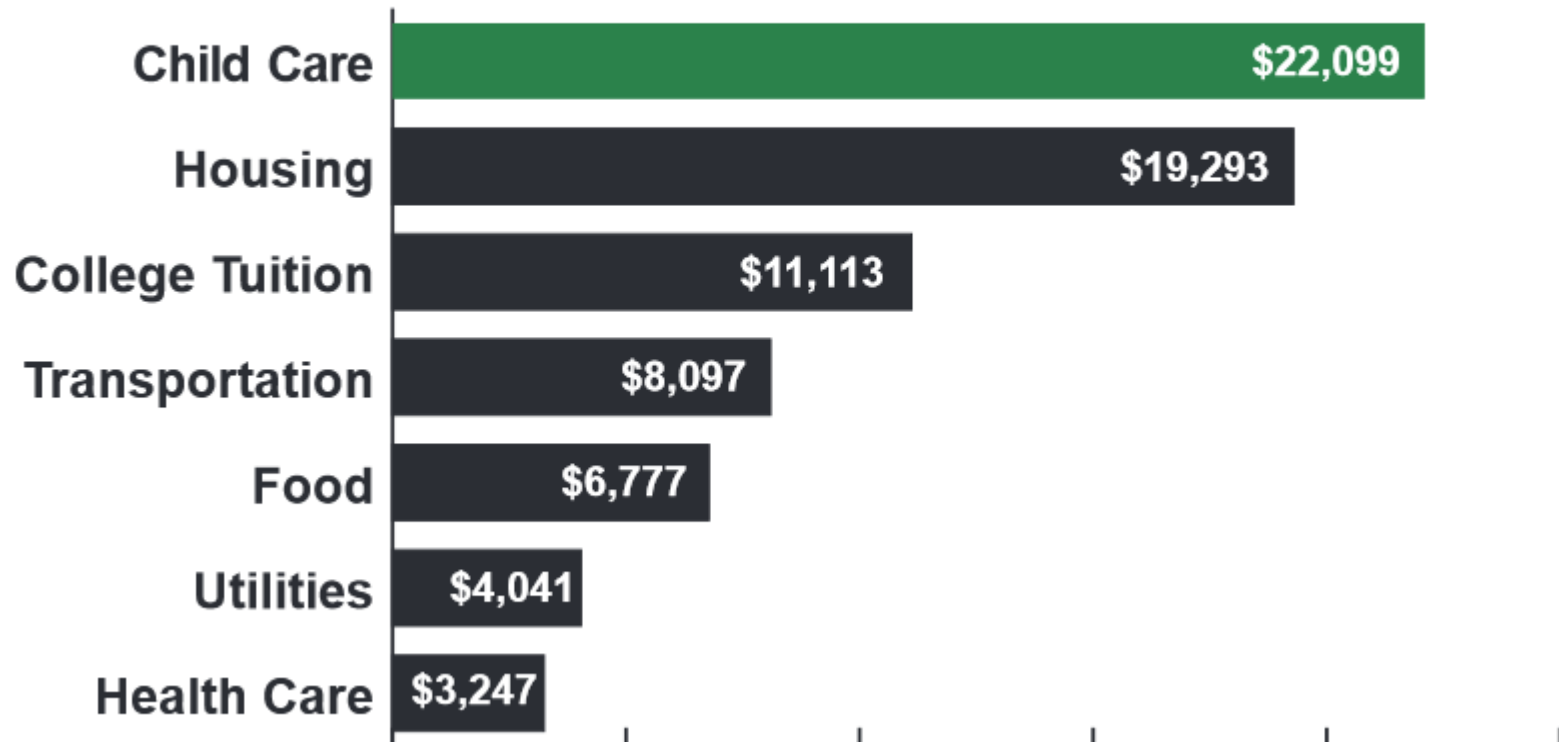
The high cost of child care in Massachusetts is not just a challenge for low-income families.



Child Care Costs Versus Other Expenses

Center-Based Care Costs for Two Children Compared With Other Major Household Expenses by Region

Northeast



Source: "Parents and the High Cost of Child Care 2013 Report," Child Care Aware of America.
<http://usa.childcareaware.org/sites/default/files/Cost%20of%20Care%202013%20110613.pdf>

Affordability of Child Care in Massachusetts



- Massachusetts is the 6th least affordable state in the nation for preschool center-based child care
- At an average annual cost of \$12,176 for a 4-year-old to attend a center-based program, child care is:
 - 44.1% of the median income for a family headed by a single mother
 - 11.2% of median income for a married couple



Source: "Parents and the High Cost of Child Care 2013 Report," Child Care Aware of America.
<http://usa.childcareaware.org/sites/default/files/Cost%20of%20Care%202013%20110613.pdf>

Other Options Are Limited



Other options in Massachusetts for access to preschool (0-5 years):

- Head Start (mostly federally-funded)
 - Federal poverty guidelines
 - **\$15,130 or less household income for family of two**
 - Ages 3-5 years old
- Early Head Start
 - Same as above
 - Ages 0-3
 - Not available in all communities
- Public school districts
 - May charge (if not special needs)
 - Not available in all districts
 - Not always full day or full year
- Community based programs that fundraise and offer own scholarships or sliding fee scale.



Higher Quality for Best Outcomes



- Dual focus on educator qualifications as part of increased program quality
- Key mechanisms:
 - Launch of the Quality Rating and Improvement System
 - Educator/Provider Support networks
 - Expansion of UPK programs
 - Guidelines and Standards for Infants/Toddlers, ELA and Math PreK, STE PreK, and Dual Language Learners
 - Child Care Quality Fund (“Invest in Children” license)
 - Professional Qualifications Registry



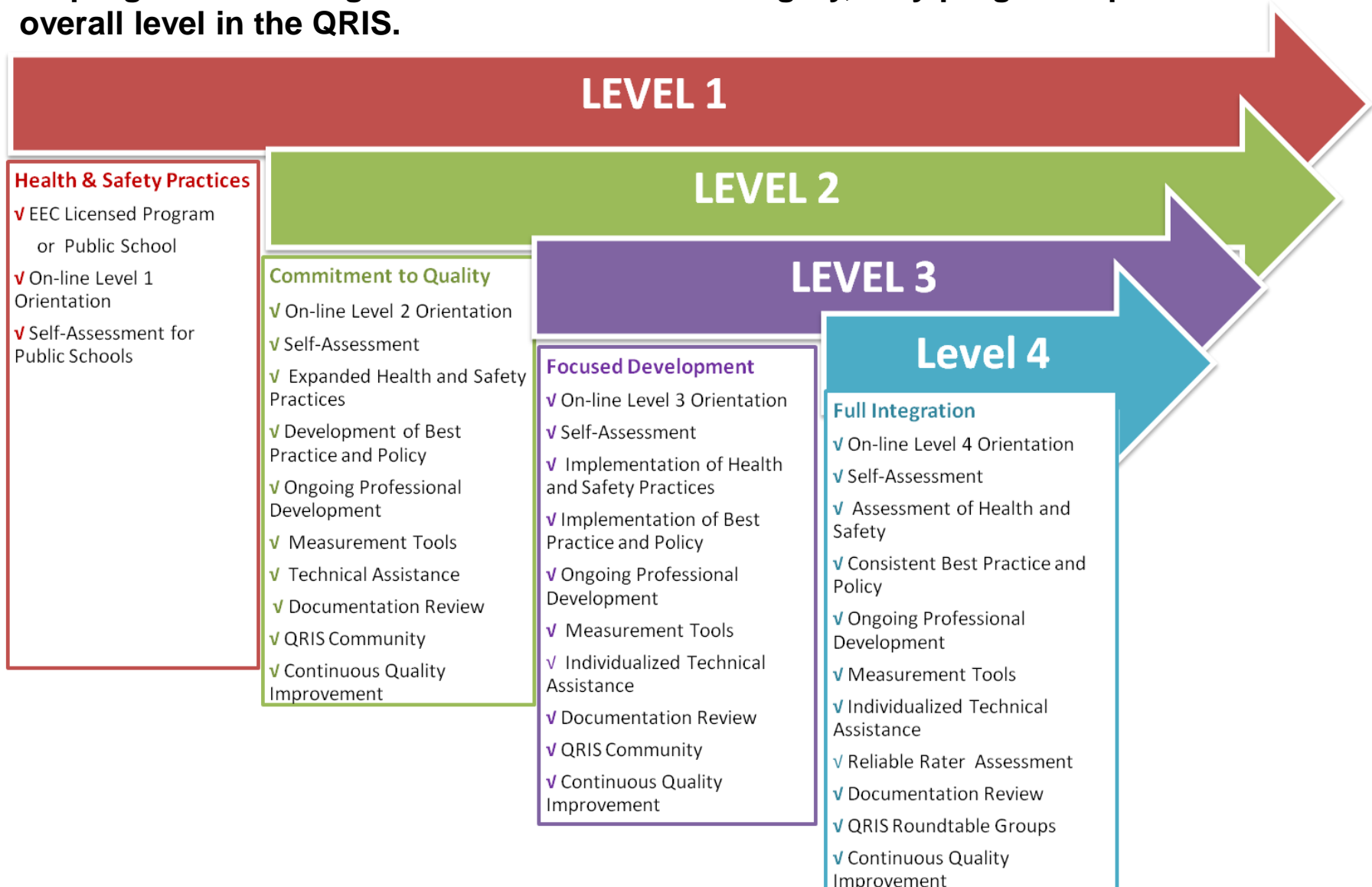


Moving Towards Higher Education/Qualifications

- **Early Childhood Educators' scholarship launched 2005**
- **1st year, \$1M, 612 approved; current \$3.2M, 1,042 approved**
- **\$1M one-time supplement through RTTT-ELC**
- **Program once supported up to 9 courses/year, but with increased demand max funding now reduced to 3 courses per year**
 - **Funding for summer courses has not been available for the last couple of years.**
- **Accreditation, UPK and QRIS all have requirements on minimum number of educators who must possess a college degree**
- **Time to achieve degree at rate of 3 courses/year on scholarship:**
 - **6-7 years for Associate's Degree**
 - **13 years for a Bachelor's Degree**

Moving to Higher Levels of Quality

As programs meet higher standards in each category, they progress upward in overall level in the QRIS.



Retaining and Compensating the Workforce



- Increasing program quality through higher standards includes increased requirements for early educators' qualifications (e.g., college degrees)
- Current compensation structure for family/center-based early educators does not match that for public (preK) school educators.
 - Family child care provider median salary: **\$25,001 - \$27,500***
 - Center-based educator median salary: **\$22,501 - \$25,000***
 - Public school educator avg. starting salary in MA: **\$40,462****
- An estimated 30% of the family/center-based early educator workforce attrits annually.***
- Salaries and benefits are the most significant operation costs for programs

**The Massachusetts Career Ladder and Early Educator Compensation Reform, May 2013. The Bessie Tart Wilson Initiative for Children.*

***2011-2012 Average Starting Teacher Salaries by State. National Education Association.*

<http://www.nea.org/home/2011-2012-average-starting-teacher-salary.html>

Preparing the Early Education and Care Workforce: The Capacity of Massachusetts' Institutions of Higher Education, 2005.

The Wellesley Centers for Women. <http://www.wcwonline.org/pdf/capacityexecsum.pdf>

Quality Means Safety and Security



- Background checks and license sanctions are key means of ensuring compliance with EEC safety requirements and protecting the children in licensed programs
- Since the launch in February 2014, EEC has fingerprinted 16,000 employees working for EEC- licensed or funded programs
 - ❑ These individuals first cleared a BRC consisting of a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check, DCF abuse/neglect check, and Sex Offender Registry Information (SORI) check
- EEC also employs licensing enforcement actions as warranted, including: sanctions, cease and desist orders, emergency suspensions, license/certification revocations, and refusals to renew/issue license
 - ❑ The number of licensing enforcement actions has doubled in the last five years



Notable Accomplishments

Creation of EEC (FY05)

Early Childhood Educators **Scholarship** program launched (FY06)

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (**UPK**) Program launched (FY07)

Professional Development **Calendar** posted online (FY08)

Workforce Task Force Review and Report (FY08)

Updates to program **licensing regulations** (FY10)

Professional Qualifications **Registry** established (FY10)

Guidelines and Standards for early education and care* (FY10-14)

Quality Rating and Improvement System (**QRIS**) launched (FY11)

“Brain Building in Progress” Campaign launched (FY11)

\$50 million federal Early Learning Challenge (**ELC**) Grant award (2012-2015)

Enhancements to *background records checks* (**BRC**) (FY13)

Rate increases for subsidized providers of early education and care (FY14, FY15)

Capital fund for early education and care **facilities** (FY14)

Initial design of a **differential licensing** model (FY14)

NGA **Birth to Third Grade Strategy** with ESE and DHE (FY14)

Legislative commission review on EEC administration and operations (FY14)

Challenges



- Increasing **Access** - Income Eligible, Supportive
- Improving **Affordability**
- Supporting **Quality** Agenda
 - Workforce Development
 - Compensation
- **Infrastructure**
 - Information Technology
 - Cross-Sector Alignment
 - Staffing, including *high licenser caseloads*
 - **273:1 for family child care providers**
 - **90:1 for center-based providers**



Questions for Consideration



What is working well?

What does the ideal system look like?

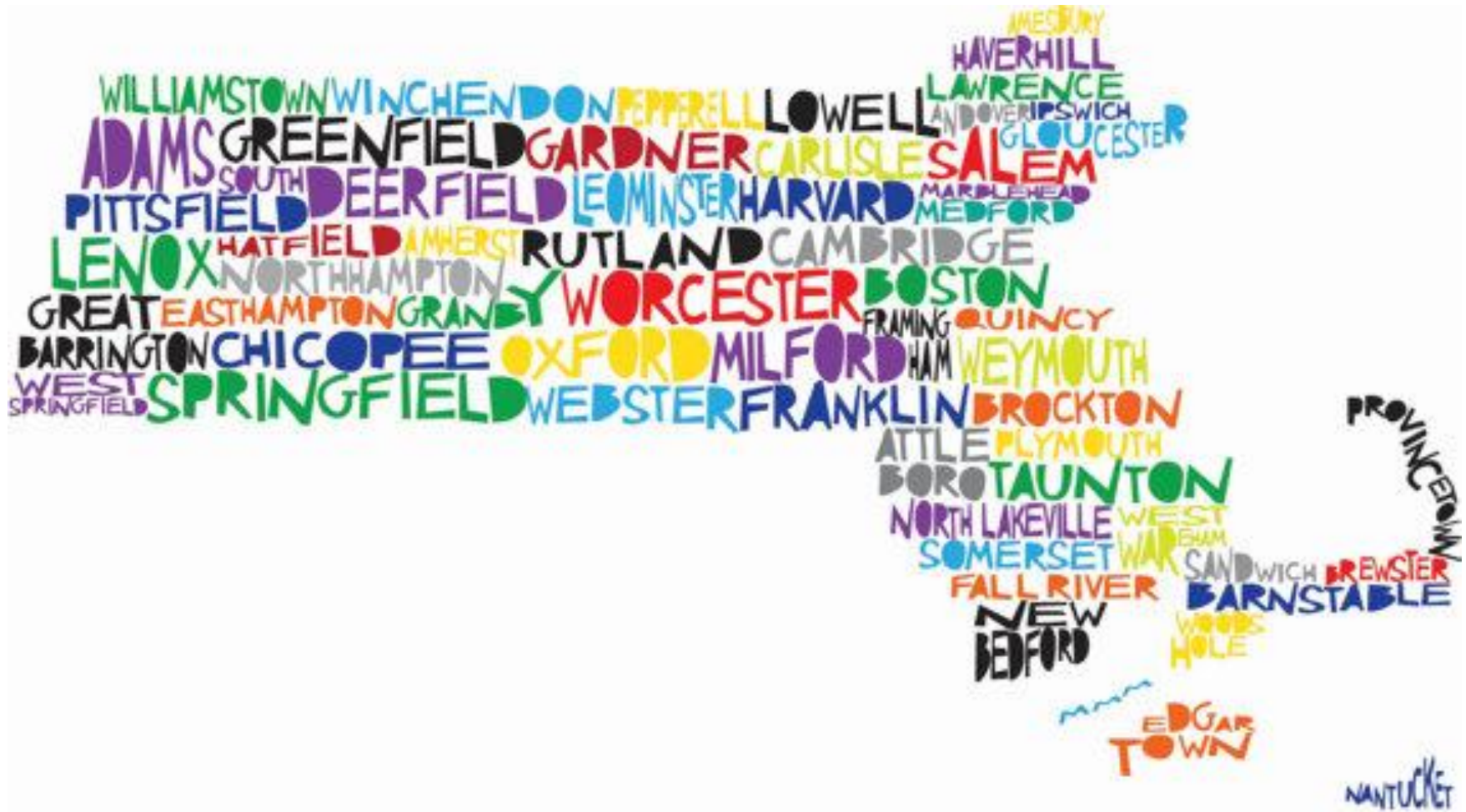
What do you want to change?

How can we make meaningful progress in realizing better outcomes for more children/families?

What is the most effective way to do this?

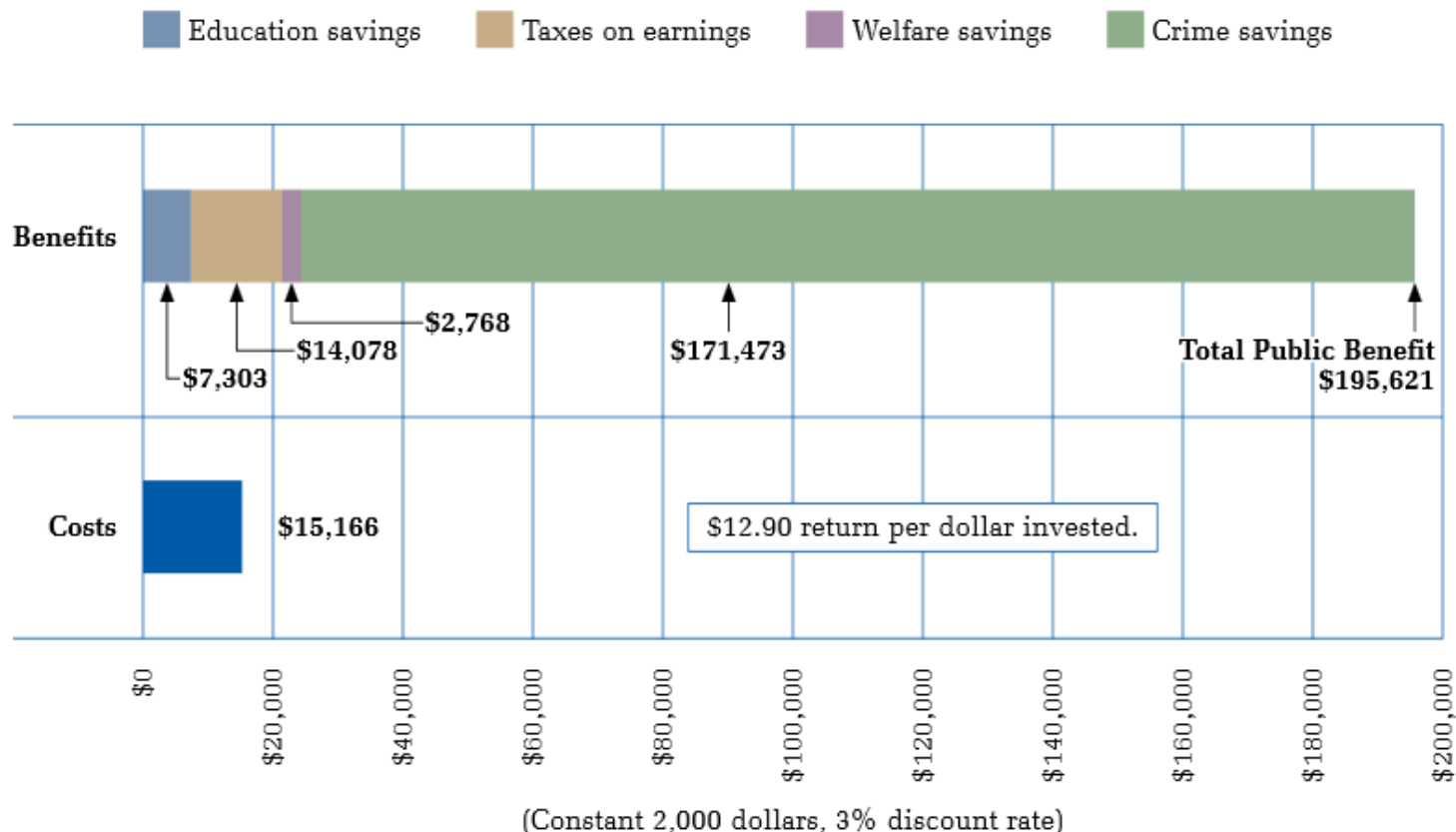


APPENDIX



Appendix A: Quantifying the Value

High/Scope Perry Preschool Program Public Costs and Benefits

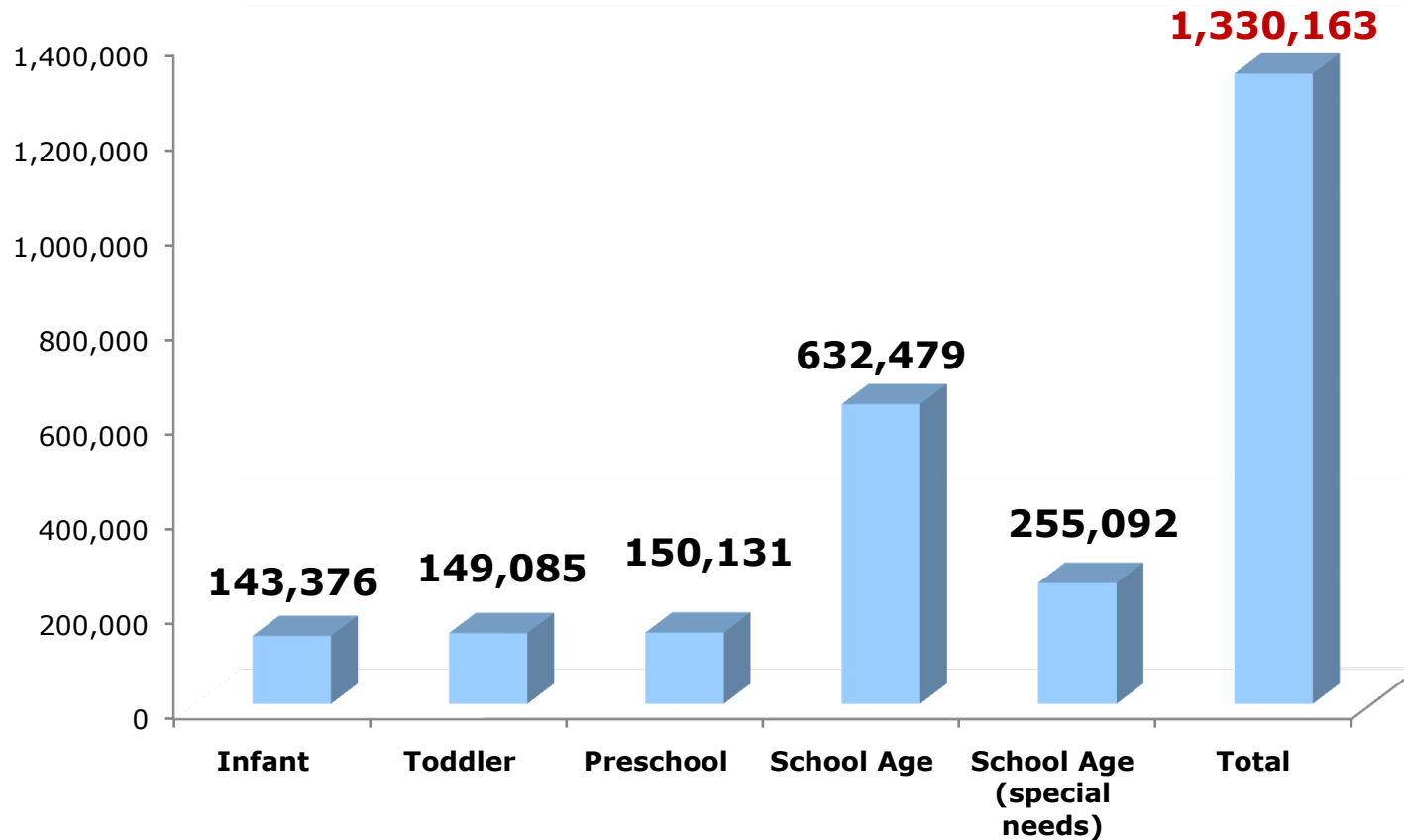


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Appendix B: Universe of Children Birth to Age 16

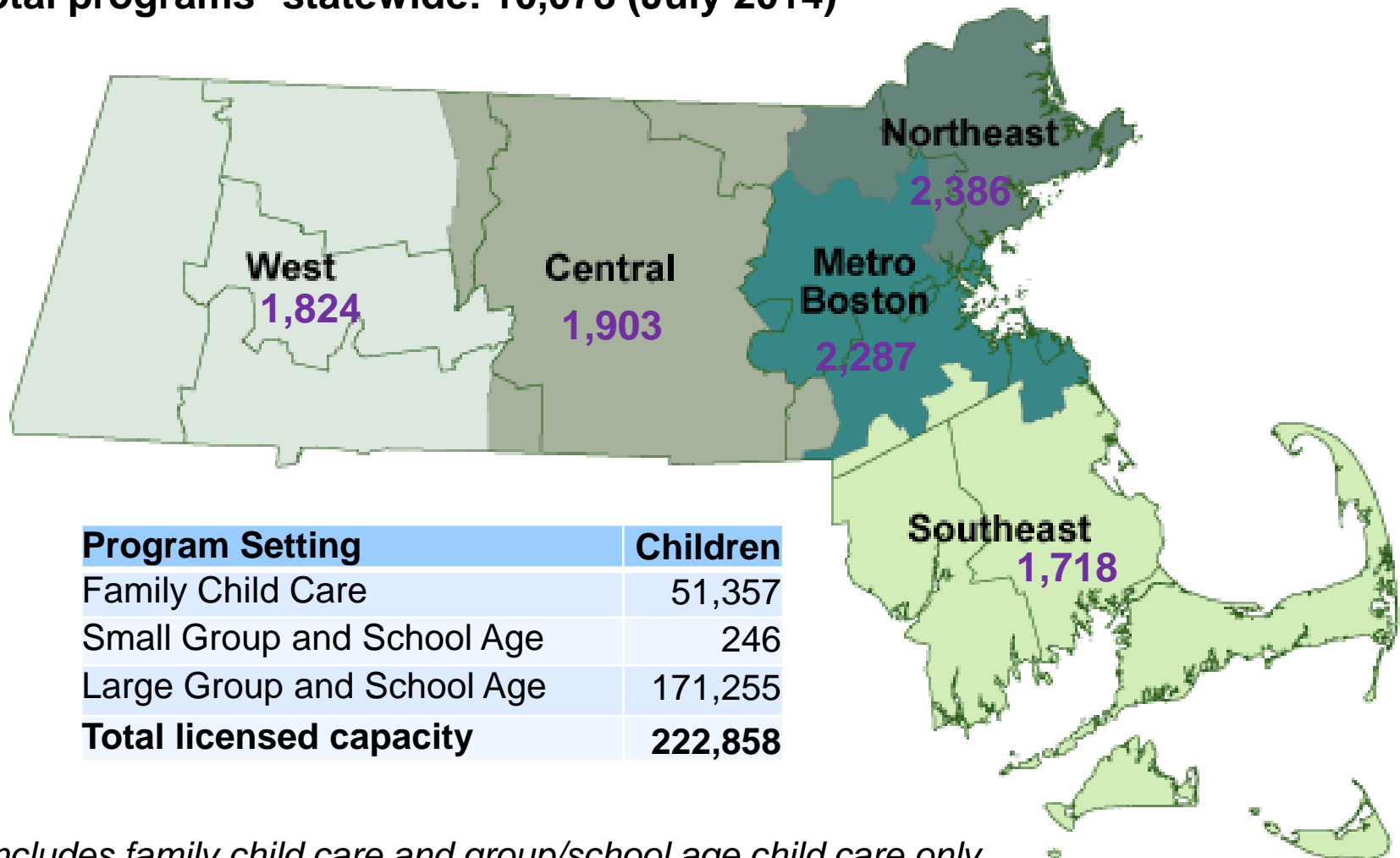


Massachusetts Census Data (2010)



Appendix C: EEC Licensed Programs

Total programs* statewide: 10,078 (July 2014)



Program Setting	Children
Family Child Care	51,357
Small Group and School Age	246
Large Group and School Age	171,255
Total licensed capacity	222,858

**Includes family child care and group/school age child care only. Does not include Residential programs or placement agencies.*

Appendix D: Subsidized Child Care Providers Types



- **Voucher Providers:**

- Individual provider (both family and center-based) enters into an Agreement with the local Child Care Resource and Referral agency.
- Agreement focuses on billing requirements, and reinforces regulations on subsidized care and licensing/health and safety requirements.

- **Contracted Providers:**

- EEC competitively procures contracts with child care providers throughout the Commonwealth to secure capacity in potentially hard to reach areas and provide a fixed distribution (maximum award)
- Types of contracted care:
 - Income Eligible
 - Teen Parent
 - Homeless
 - Supportive (Families are DCF-involved)
- Contracts are awarded to center-based lead agencies or family child care systems
- For family child care systems, FCCs provide administrative supports, training and home visiting at a rate of ~\$10/day for each child placed in an affiliated family child care home.

Appendix E: Priority Access Programs

■ Transitional Assistance Families (DTA)

- ❑ Child care voucher for families receiving Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC) cash assistance and participating in the Employment Services Program, or
- ❑ Child care voucher for families in the 12 month period after close of TAFDC benefits

■ Supportive Child Care (DCF)

- ❑ Child care for families who are receiving or at risk of receiving, protective services through the Department of Children and Families.
- ❑ Includes foster care; a physical, mental, emotional or medical condition; or participation in a drug treatment or rehabilitation program

■ Homeless Child Care

- ❑ For families residing in homeless shelters affiliated with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD); or domestic violence shelters and substance abuse shelters affiliated with DCF.



Appendix F: Household Income Limits

Step 1: Use This Form to Determine Family Eligibility

1. Find the column with the family's size written at the top.
2. Read down the column until you come to the correct income (either annual or monthly).
3. Then read directly across to the left to determine "Percent of State Median Income."
4. Please refer to relevant SMI Percentage (i.e. initial vs. reassessment - OR - special needs) to determine the family's eligibility.

% of State Median Income (SMI)	Family of Two		Family of Three		Family of Four		Family of Five		Family of Six		Family of Seven		Family of Eight		Family of Nine	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
50% SMI	\$35,545	\$2,962	\$43,909	\$3,659	\$52,273	\$4,356	\$60,636	\$5,053	\$69,000	\$5,750	\$70,568	\$5,881	\$72,136	\$6,011	\$73,704	\$6,142
85% SMI	\$60,427	\$5,036	\$74,645	\$6,220	\$88,863	\$7,405	\$103,081	\$8,590	\$117,299	\$9,775	\$119,965	\$9,997	\$122,631	\$10,219	\$125,297	\$10,441
100% SMI	\$71,091	\$5,924	\$87,818	\$7,318	\$104,545	\$8,712	\$121,272	\$10,106	\$137,999	\$11,500	\$141,136	\$11,761	\$144,272	\$12,023	\$147,408	\$12,284

% of State Median Income (SMI)	Family of Ten		Family of Eleven		Family of Twelve	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
50% SMI	\$75,272	\$6,273	\$76,841	\$6,403	\$78,409	\$6,534
85% SMI	\$127,963	\$10,664	\$130,629	\$10,886	\$133,295	\$11,108
100% SMI	\$150,545	\$12,545	\$153,681	\$12,807	\$156,818	\$13,068

There is a sliding fee parent copay based on household income.

Appendix G: Sample Co-Payment Amount

Maximum Income	Annual	Monthly
50% SMI*	\$52,273	\$4,356
85% SMI**	\$88,863	\$7,405
100% SMI***	\$104,545	\$8,712

*Maximum income level at initial assessment- general

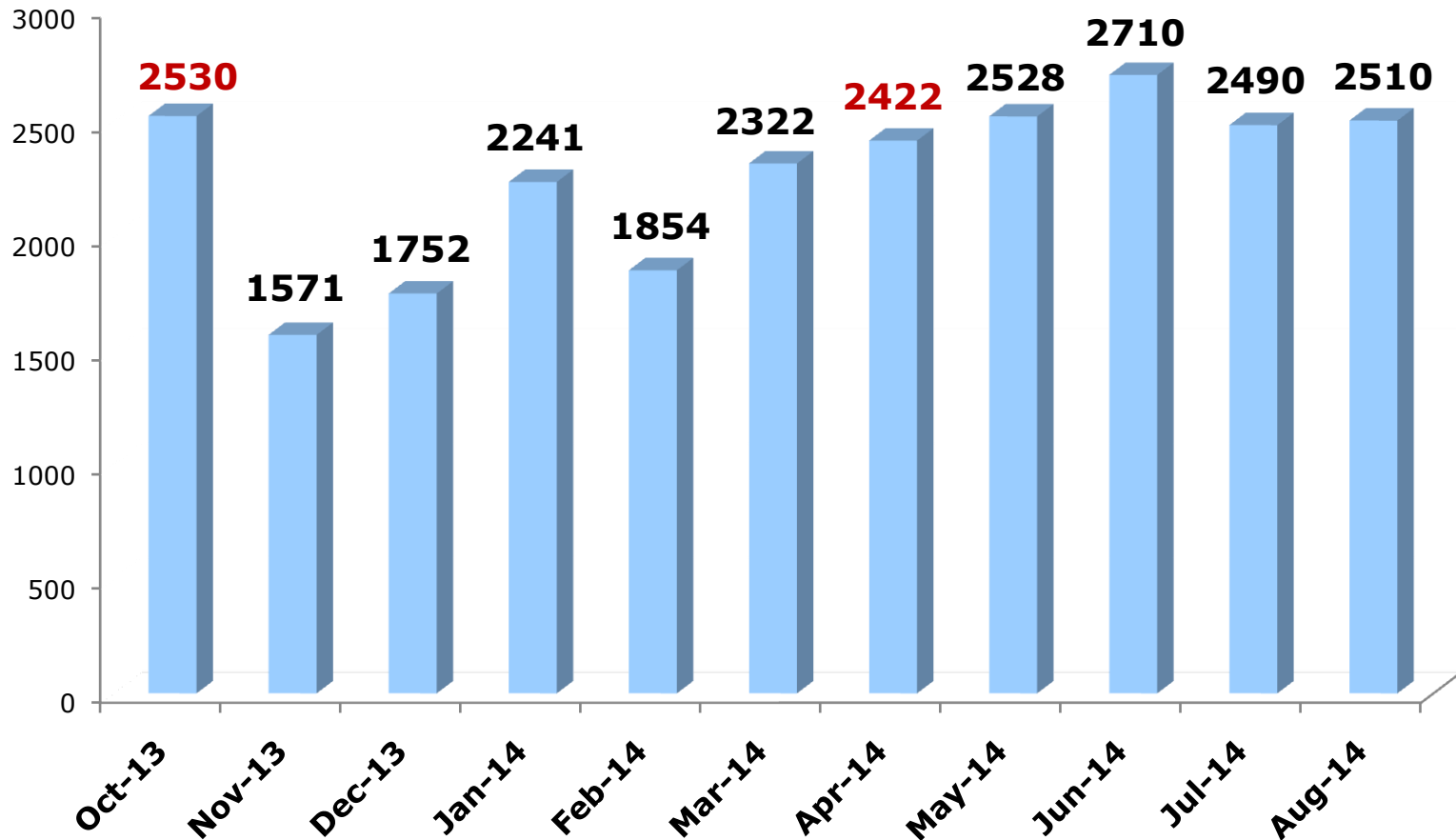
**Maximum income level at initial assessment – special needs;
maximum income level at reassessment – general

***Maximum income level at reassessment – special needs

A family of four with a household income of \$2,560 per week
would be subject to the following co-payment structure:

	Daily Fee (Full Time)	Weekly Fee (Full Time)	Daily Fee (Part Time)	Weekly Fee (Part Time)
\$2251- \$2874	\$9.00	\$45.00	\$4.50	\$22.50

Appendix H: Monthly Waitlist Growth (New Children)



October 2013: New voucher enrollment through FY14 waitlist remediation funding began.

April 2014: End of new voucher enrollment through FY14 waitlist remediation funding.

Appendix I: Reimbursement Rates for Providers



The state reimburses early education and care providers for enrolling children in their program through a voucher or contract.

- Providers who accept vouchers:
 - ❑ EEC reimburses the child care resource and referral agency, who in turn pays the provider or their lead agency
- Providers who have a contract:
 - ❑ EEC reimburses them for the actual number of children billed, not to exceed the maximum obligation of the contract
- Reimbursement rates are based on region, program type and age group.
 - ❑ There is an add-on rate for Teen Parent, Homeless, and Supportive (DCF) child care
- Biennially, EEC conducts a market rate survey to compare the subsidized rates against the private pay rates.

Appendix J1: Subsidized Care Rate Vs. Private Pay Rate



Family Child Care (non-systems)

Region	Age Group	EEC Daily Rate per Child	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	EEC Market Access Rate
Western	Infant	\$30.10	\$32.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	22.1%
	Toddler	\$30.10	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	33.3%
	Preschool	\$26.40	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	9.5%
Central	Infant	\$31.80	\$33.00	\$40.00	\$45.00	17.1%
	Toddler	\$31.80	\$32.00	\$40.00	\$45.00	24.5%
	Preschool	\$26.40	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$45.00	9.3%
Northeast	Infant	\$31.50	\$34.25	\$45.00	\$50.05	18.5%
	Toddler	\$31.50	\$32.50	\$44.00	\$54.37	22.8%
	Preschool	\$27.85	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$50.00	15.4%
Metro	Infant	\$34.35	\$45.00	\$56.50	\$65.00	3.8%
	Toddler	\$34.35	\$41.50	\$55.00	\$65.00	8.5%
	Preschool	\$27.85	\$41.50	\$55.00	\$65.25	8.1%
Southeast	Infant	\$31.80	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$45.00	8.1%
	Toddler	\$31.80	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$45.00	17.6%
	Preschool	\$26.40	\$30.00	\$38.00	\$54.75	3.7%
Boston	Infant	\$31.50	\$32.00	\$40.00	\$54.50	17.4%
	Toddler	\$31.50	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$51.50	31.1%
	Preschool	\$27.85	\$30.00	\$38.00	\$53.88	11.5%

Data Source: Massachusetts 2012 Market Price Survey. May 2013

Appendix J2: Subsidized Care Rate Vs. Private Pay Rate



Out of school

Region	Age Group	EEC Daily Rate per Child	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	EEC Market Access Rate
Western	Before School	\$7.25	\$6.77	\$8.00	\$10.00	34.6%
	After School	\$15.25	\$14.16	\$15.00	\$18.50	60.0%
	Full Day Holiday	\$30.70	\$29.00	\$30.70	\$34.00	50.0%
	Full Day Summer	\$30.70	\$30.00	\$33.45	\$35.25	37.1%
Central	Before School	\$7.25	\$7.63	\$9.97	\$10.92	21.4%
	After School	\$15.25	\$14.00	\$18.68	\$21.00	28.7%
	Full Day Holiday	\$30.70	\$33.00	\$35.00	\$42.04	18.5%
	Full Day Summer	\$30.70	\$27.60	\$35.00	\$36.49	33.5%
Northeast	Before School	\$7.70	\$11.60	\$20.00	\$42.00	4.1%
	After School	\$17.05	\$17.55	\$21.60	\$24.95	22.1%
	Full Day Holiday	\$31.75	\$30.75	\$40.00	\$50.00	26.1%
	Full Day Summer	\$31.75	\$36.00	\$44.00	\$50.00	16.7%
Metro	Before School	\$7.90	\$8.75	\$11.13	\$32.42	19.3%
	After School	\$17.50	\$18.68	\$22.15	\$27.00	12.0%
	Full Day Holiday	\$32.65	\$28.60	\$49.50	\$64.15	27.1%
	Full Day Summer	\$32.65	\$31.80	\$41.00	\$52.50	26.2%
Southeast	Before School	\$7.25	\$9.75	\$16.75	\$19.06	4.7%
	After School	\$15.25	\$17.00	\$19.00	\$25.00	13.5%
	Full Day Holiday	\$30.70	\$30.00	\$38.00	\$40.00	27.0%
	Full Day Summer	\$30.70	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$38.00	29.3%
Boston	Before School	\$7.90	\$7.95	\$8.80	\$9.50	16.6%
	After School	\$17.50	\$15.70	\$19.00	\$22.00	30.7%
	Full Day Holiday	\$32.65	\$22.08	\$30.00	\$37.50	68.2%
	Full Day Summer	\$32.65	\$28.75	\$31.77	\$40.75	51.3%

Appendix J3: Subsidized Care Rate Vs. Private Pay Rate



Center-based infant care
EEC rate vs. 75th percentile of market rate



Appendix J4: Subsidized Care Rate Vs. Private Pay Rate



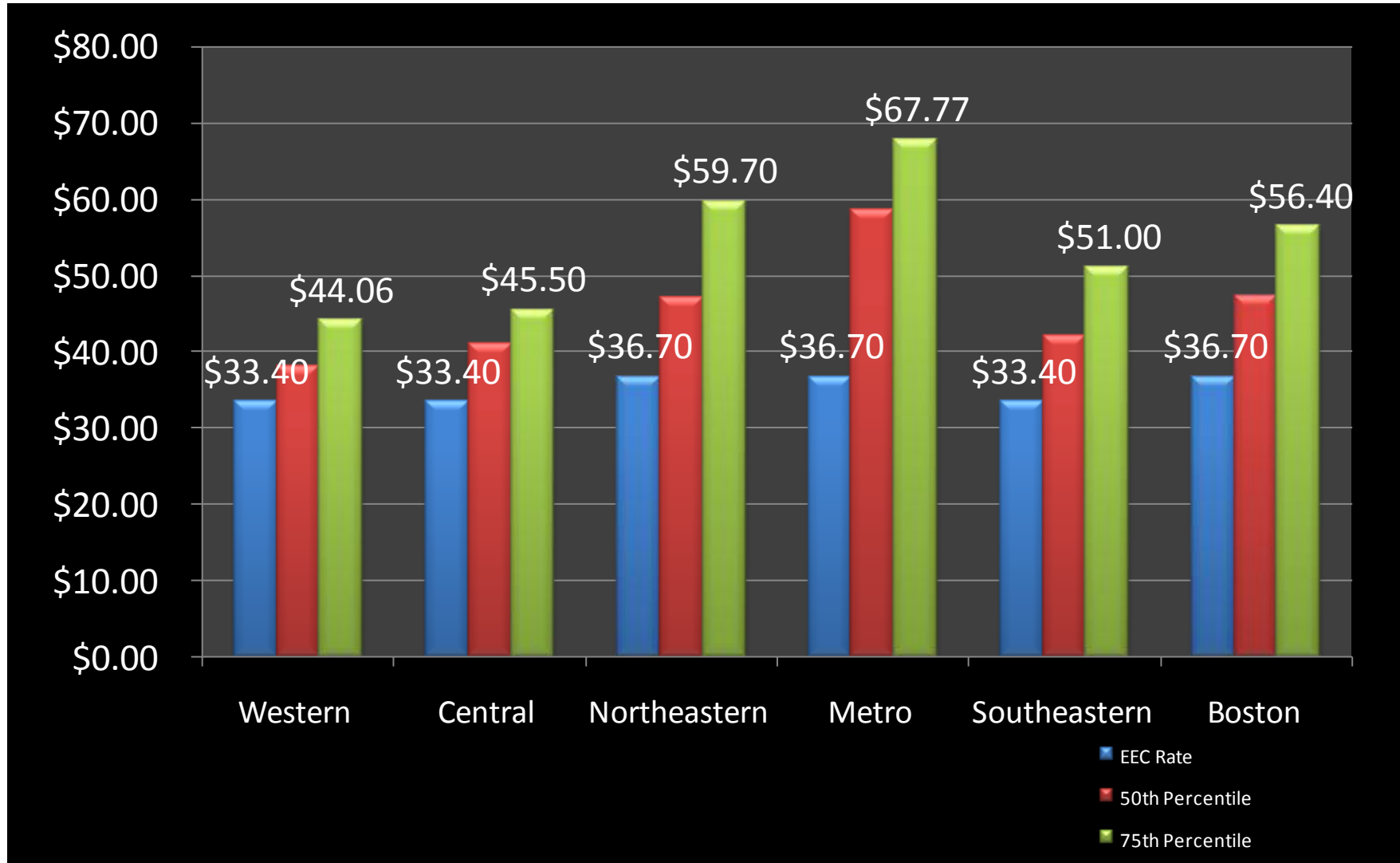
Center-based toddler care
EEC rate vs. 75th percentile of market rate



Appendix J5: Subsidized Care Rate Vs. Private Pay Rate



Center-based preschool care: *EEC rate vs. 75 percentile of market rate*



Appendix K: Improving Quality in the System



The Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) is comprised of five categories of standards:

1.) Curriculum and Learning

- a. Curriculum, Assessment and Diversity
- b. Teacher/Child Relationships and Interactions

2.) Safe, Healthy Indoor and Outdoor Environments

3.) Workforce Qualifications and Professional Development

- a. Designated Program Administrator Qualifications, Professional Development
- b. Program Staff Qualifications and Professional Development

4.) Family and Community Engagement

5.) Leadership, Management and Administration

- a. Leadership, Management and Administration
- b. Supervision

Appendix L: Early Childhood Educators' Scholarship



FY2015	\$3.2M	1043 applicants approved by EEC
FY2014	\$3.2M	1091 applicants approved by EEC
FY2013	\$3.2M	1335 applicants approved by EEC
FY2012	\$3.2M	834 applicants approved by EEC
FY2011	\$3.2M	860 applicants approved by EEC
FY2010	\$3.2M	857 applicants approved by EEC
FY2009	\$4M	1018 applicants approved by EEC
FY2008	\$4M	980 applicants approved by EEC
FY2007	\$3M	743 applicants approved by EEC
FY2006	\$1M	614 applicants approved by EEC

Appendix M: Workforce

In 2010, launched a Professional Qualifications Registry as part of its workforce system development efforts.

Data is being collected to inform EEC about the education, experience, and retention of early educators.

EEC-licensed programs, and participants in QRIS must register.

**There are 76K completed (not pending) records in the PQR.
Some (up to half) may not have been updated in over a year
PQR does not send out a reminder when educator's record is set to expire**

Data usage is limited -- not all of the information is verified, participants can re-activate their account annually without updating their record, and the application is not fully connected to all EEC systems.

Appendix N: Program Quality and Improvement Gaps

Gaps/Needed Improvements:

Standards

- Platform for on-line trainings and e-learning

Accountability & Monitoring

- Environment Rating Scales Reliable Rater classroom observations
- Inter-Rater Reliability Protocols and policy manuals
- Family Child Care QRIS Validation Study

Educator & Program Supports

- QRIS Trainings/Orientations , Conference and Technical Assistance
- Maintenance of QRIS On-line Community
- Stipends for substitute teachers for providers to attend college courses

Incentives

- Educator and Provider Merit Awards
- QRIS Improvement Grants

Appendix O: Access Gaps

Caseload Requests:

1. Funding requests as follows:
 - a. Supportive: Funding level of \$117,386,690, which includes **\$13,634,700** to fund 1,000 children above the base level that we project for FY16 (base level includes the 800 children on current DCF placement waitlist).
 - b. DTA: Funding level of \$155,838,121, an increase of \$27.8M over our current FY15 forecast, to cover the anticipated cost of the caseload increase due to Chapter 158 of the Acts of 2014.
 - c. Income Eligible: Funding level of \$305,064,804 which includes **\$50M** to provide care to an additional **6,630** children on the waitlist.
2. Change the structure of the three caseload accounts to reduce the expectation that the Income Eligible account will cover deficiencies in Supportive or DTA accounts.

Benefits of the Caseload Requests:

1. Provides care for **9,130** new children from the waitlist through the continued Waitlist Remediation Account and additional IE Funding. This will reduce the waitlist by **32.9%**.
2. Ensures sufficient funding for Supportive and DTA accounts to cover anticipated levels of care.
3. The structural change would allow EEC to manage the Income Eligible account without factoring for the volatility of the entitlement accounts.

Appendix P1: Transportation Service



- For many children and families, the availability of transportation services for early education and care is crucial for the children's access to care.
- Providing transportation services is statutorily mandated for Supportive early education and care programs which includes some of the neediest and most vulnerable children
 - Supportive providers receive add-on rate of \$17.22 per child per day to cover transportation, other services that supportive children need (e.g., case management)
- EEC also provides transportation services for children receiving Low-Income or Transitional child care. The funds come out of the general access accounts for Income Eligible and Department of Transitional Assistance care.
 - EEC pays \$6/one-way and \$9/round trip for all regions
 - Rate was last increased in 2006
- In FY13 EEC spent a total of \$51.6 million on transportation for, on average, 5,700 children in Supportive early education and care, and on average, 14,000 children in Income Eligible or DTA-related early education and care.

Appendix P2: Transportation Safety



- EEC licensed or funded programs that contract for transportation services must include contractual provisions requiring that a CORI and DCF check for all personnel providing transportation services
- EEC determines the suitability of transportation providers after a SORI and fingerprint-based check of the state and national criminal history databases.
- Programs must submit a transportation plan to EEC's Compliance Monitor
- EEC has hired a Transportation Compliance Monitor
 - Completed 48 monitoring visits as of October 10, 2014
 - Statewide Transportation trainings will be offered in November 2014 for all providers.
 - Transportation Monitoring Visit includes review of BRCs of all drivers and monitors.
 - Any drivers found not to have completed a BRC are told to immediately stop transporting children.
- The Board of Early Education and Care has approved requiring transportation related safety improvements such as adult monitor on all vehicles carrying infants, toddlers, and preschool children, subject to funding appropriation.

Appendix Q: Information Technology/Infrastructure Gaps



Needed Improvements

- New Licensure Application Suite
 - Align with safety goals and differential licensing initiative
- New Background Records Check Application Suite
 - Need to support new regulations and ensure connection with licensing
- Preparation for 2016 CCDF Block Grant requirements
 - Require visits online
 - Require more frequent program visits
 - Require background checks
- Integrated QRIS application
 - Dynamic connection between QRIS and other EEC applications
- Consolidation of teacher certification and professional qualifications registry
 - Would streamline processes and provide better data quality
- Explore integration of central waitlist function into CCFA
 - Better data quality from integration, better reporting capability, and possibly including a DCF supportive waitlist